



# HAWK HEADLINER

Volume 5 Issue 1

September, 2002

## THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE: WHAT'S NEW?

That seems to be the first question that most of our students ask on their first few days back to school. Of course when they ask, they are rarely talking about school.

For us though, there is plenty new at school. Here are just a few items you might not have heard about.

- ⇒ Our kindergarten playground has a new climber, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our parent group.
- ⇒ Our playground has a beautiful new mural, thanks to the hard work of two of our teachers, Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Seacat.

Both of these new items will be dedicated early on in the year. Watch for more information.

Other things have changed over the summer.

- ⇒ Our new website address is [www.morongo.k12.ca.us/morfhe/index.html](http://www.morongo.k12.ca.us/morfhe/index.html) Bookmark it for easy access.



- ⇒ Our dress code has changed to help you in knowing how short is too short for shorts. Please look for this change in our handbook along with the addition of a discipline matrix.
- ⇒ Our spring carnival is now a fall carnival. Check out the events calendar in the handbook.

So.....What's new with you? Hope your summer was great and welcome back to another wonderful year.

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### Dates of Interest

- Labor Day Holiday 9/2
- FHEA Spaghetti Dinner and Back to School Night 9/19
- Awards Assemblies 9/26





## Back-to-School Night and Dinner:

Please mark your calendars: Thursday, Sept. 19 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. will be our annual Back-to-School Night. Come and see your child's classroom.

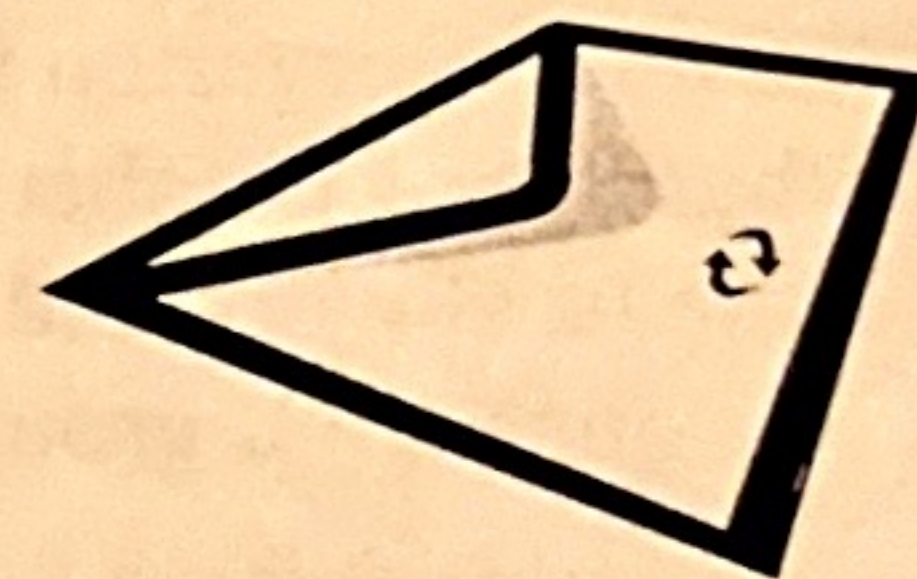
We will also have our annual FHEA spaghetti dinner that night from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.



## WEEKLY ENVELOPES

We will continue to use the "Weekly Envelope" to communicate with you. This is a large manila envelope that will be sent home with your child once a week. It is a way for the teacher to communicate with you on a regular basis and will help you look for information on a certain day each week. Please take the time to check the

Weekly Envelope, sign the outside and return any items that the teacher or the school requires. There will be times when information cannot wait and we will send home a flyer, but for the most part, important information will be in the envelope.



## Phone Calls

**Please call in all absences when your child will not be at school.**

Please feel free to call the school if you have questions regarding your child's program. The school phone number is 366-3812 and our fax number is 366-1061. We cannot take a teacher away from instruction,

but you can always leave a message and the teacher will call you back as soon as possible. We do have an intercom system if we need to relay an emergency message to the classroom. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



# FRIENDLY HILLS ELEMENTARY ASSOCIATION

We have a very active parent group at Friendly Hills called the F.H.E.A. (Friendly Hills Elementary Association) We hope you will consider joining this group of parents. There are many ways, big or small, that you can be of service to your child's school. They have provided wonderful support to the teachers and students at Friendly Hills. They hold regular meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2002. Information re-

garding the membership drive and fundraising activities will be sent home in the near future. Did you know that the parent group pays for all the field trips for your children?



## FORMS, FORMS, FORMS

We are sending you several forms to fill out this first week of school. It is very important that you return these to school as soon as possible, especially the blue Family Record Card. We need current emergency information on your children, even if you pre-enrolled a child last spring or this summer. These forms include a yellow disaster preparedness card, student accident insurance (this

is an optional "mail-in" insurance), school lunch program form and menu, a parent-student handbook and probably a letter or note from your child's teacher. Please fill out a blue and yellow card for each child in your family. This may seem repetitive, however we use the cards in different places for different purposes. Don't forget there are two sides to these cards - please fill out both sides.

### Bell Schedule:

#### Morning Break:

Grade 7-8

8:55-9:05

~~Grades 3-4~~

10:30-10:45

Grades 1-2

10:50-11:05

#### Lunch:

Grade 7-8

11:00-11:35

AM Kindergarten

11:10-11:30

~~Grades 5-6~~

11:30-12:05

PM Kindergarten

11:45-12:05

~~Grades 1-2~~

~~Grades 3-4~~

#### Afternoon Break:

~~Grades 5-6~~

~~Grades 1-2~~

~~Grade 3-4~~

#### Dismissal

Grade 7-8

~~Regular~~

12:10-12:45

12:45-1:20

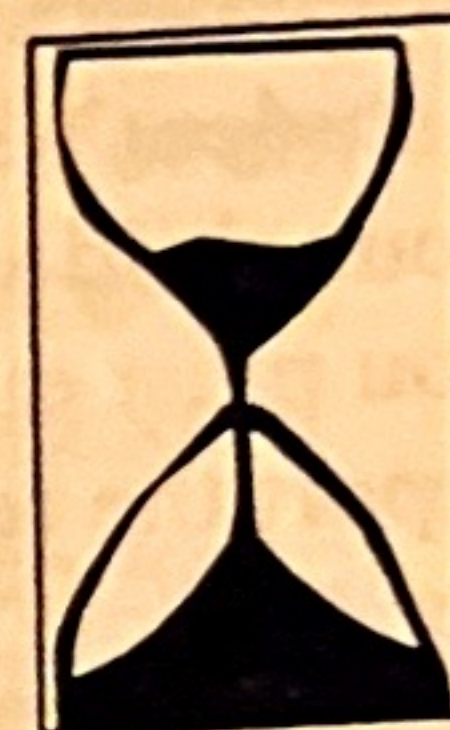
1:35-1:55

2:05-2:20

2:25-2:35

1:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.





## Homework Policy:

All students in the Morongo Unified School District receive homework assignments. Students in grades K-3 will have approximately 30 minutes a day, and students in grades 4-6 will have approximately 60 minutes of homework. Grades 7 – 8 will generally have 90 minutes each night. Time will vary depending on the assignments given by individual teachers. The purpose of homework is to reinforce those skills learned during the day. If you find your child is having difficulty, please notify the teacher as soon as possible.

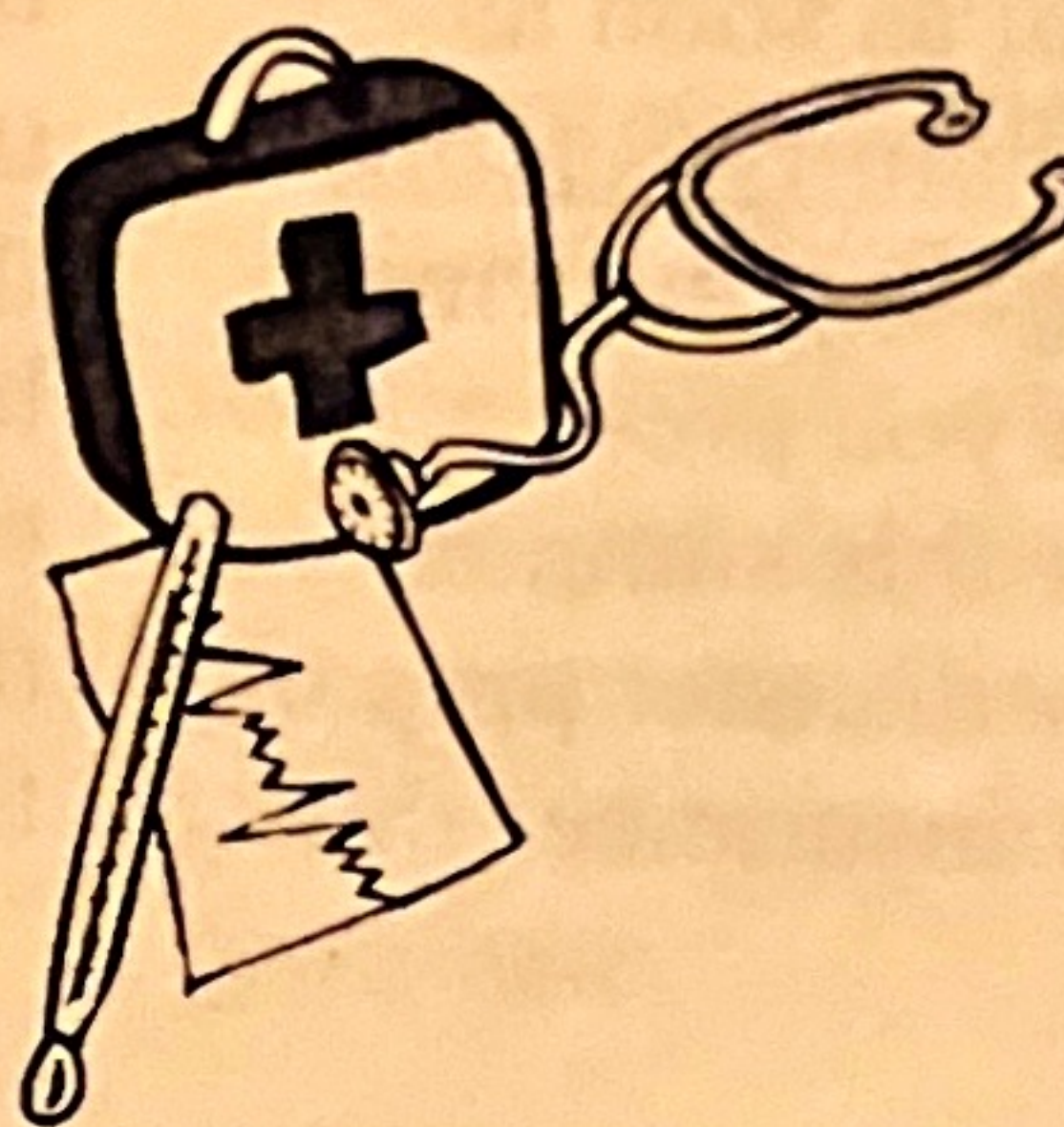


If your child is absent, you may request homework from the teacher by leaving a message at the office (a full day advance notice is required).

**SUMMER VACATION IS A TIME WHEN PARENTS REALIZE THAT TEACHERS ARE GROSSLY UNDERPAID. ☺**

## **Student Illness and Medication:**

If your child becomes ill at school, our office staff will call you if your child cannot return to class. Please make sure we have current information on the blue family card. If your child needs to take medication at school, even for a short term, a doctor's note is required. There is a form in the office



for your doctor to complete. Cough drops, vitamins, aspirin, lip balm or other non-prescription medicines are not allowed at school.

## **STUDENT ABSENCES:**

Attendance in class is essential for a student's success in school. If your child is absent from school, you must either call the school to report the reason for the absence or send a note, on the day that your

child returns to school, explaining the reason for your child's absence. If your child will be absent for an extended period of time, please notify the teacher or the office as soon as possible. A physician's note may be required for chronic absences. We may call you at home to verify an absence.



## *Student/Parent Handbook:*



The Friendly Hills Parent and Student Handbook has been revised. You should receive one with this packet of information. We hope you will find this information useful. Please read carefully the information on school visitors, school discipline, transportation and medications at school.

### LIBRARY NEWS:

As most of you are aware, Mrs. Kovaloff (affectionately known as "Mrs. K.") came out of retirement late last school year and will be with us again this year, to the delight of our youngsters. I am sure your students will enjoy working with her as they visit the library each week. They will have the opportunity to check out books and listen to the wonderful stories spun by our school librarian. We ask that students cover all textbooks to protect them. Parents are responsible for lost or damaged library books & textbooks.



### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

This informative newsletter has a wealth of information each month. Please take the time to peruse this forum, with your child, for important events and announcements. A great deal of time and effort go into making certain our families are informed. We promise to keep the information coming if you promise to keep reading.



## FRIENDLY HILLS SCHOOL

7252 Sunny Vista Rd  
Joshua Tree CA, 92252

Phone: 760 - 366-3812  
Fax: 760-366-1061  
Email: kevin\_blanding@morongo.k12.ca.us

*Friendly Hills is dedicated to ensuring that students acquire the necessary skills to be high achievers, exemplary citizens and life long, self motivated learners.*

**Bookmark it!**

**[www.morongo.k12.ca.us/  
morhe/index.html](http://www.morongo.k12.ca.us/morhe/index.html)**  
**Our school web site**

## Our Story

*Friendly Hills School was founded in 1988 as part of the Morongo Unified School District. Since it's inception, the school has been instrumental in the education of more than 2500 students. Our first kindergarten class graduated in the year 2000. We are confident that those students and all who have followed, leave this school with a strong, well rounded education. Our tradition has been one of academic excellence, high student expectations and an education rich in the arts. As we move into the future, Friendly Hills continues to lead in these areas, as well as emerging as an innovator in the area of technology. We attribute our success to a talented, dedicated staff, caring parents and wonderful students.*

## SCHOOL BASED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NEWS

The School Based Management Council is a

*Each year new parent members come onto our School Based Management Council. If you would like the chance to be a part of this group, please contact Mr. Blanding.*

decision making body within the school. This committee puts together a Site Based Plan each year that outlines how money for special programs will be spent. It is made up of an equal number of parents and staff.

There are many aspects and accountability issues in making certain that our school functions properly within School District and California State compliance. We are proud to say that Friendly Hills is doing an excellent job and we appreciate staff and parents who work diligently to make sure our students receive the best educational opportunities we can provide.



At the last SBMC meeting before summer break, the council completed working on the School Based Coordinated Plan for the 2002-2003 school year.



# September, 2002

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri



Labor Day Holiday

BOE @ 7pm

Junior High Parent Mtg @ 6:30 pm

Junior High Parent Mtg @ 6:30 pm

Administrative Council for Kween  
(8-noon) @ D.O.

Grade Level Mtg (K) @ 3:45 pm

Never Forget! Remembrance  
Flag Ceremony @ 9:25 a.m.

Site Based Management @ 3:45

Grade Level Mtg (4) @ 8:30 am  
(1) @ 2:40 pm

Board Recruitment @ 9:40

FHEA (parent group) @ 7 pm

Site Based Management @ 3:45

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Fire Drill @ 10:15 a.m.

Grade Level Mtg (3) @ 9:40 am  
(6) @ 10:40 am, (5) @ 12:45 pm  
(2) @ 2:40 pm

FHEA Spagetti Dinner @ 6 pm  
Back to School Night @ 7 pm

2nd Grade to Riley's Log Cabin  
Oak Glen (8:15-3:30)

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FHEA "Visual" Membership Drive Begins  
Blue Escapade Day (a.m. Busses)  
Admin. Council for Kween (8-noon)  
Discipline Meetings for 2, 3 and 5

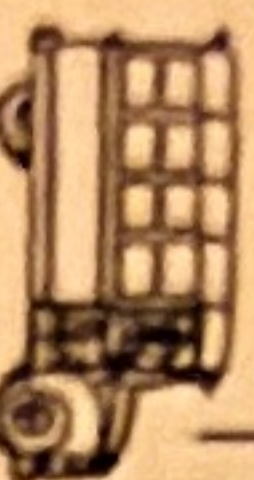
Staff Meeting @ 3:45  
BOE @ 7 p.m.

Grade Level Mtg (3) @ 9:40 am  
(6) @ 10:40 am, (5) @ 12:45 pm  
(2) @ 2:40 pm

FHEA Spagetti Dinner @ 6 pm  
Back to School Night @ 7 pm

2nd Grade to Riley's Log Cabin  
Oak Glen (8:15-3:30)

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First Day of Autumn

"Good Touch, Bad Touch"  
Assemblies per Schedule

Awards Assemblies  
K,3-4 @ 9:40 am  
5-6 @ 10:15 am  
K-2 @ 2:30 pm

"Good Touch, Bad Touch"  
Assemblies per Schedule



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